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2/5/2007

Evan Barrett Governor's Office of Economic Development Via Facsimile – 406-444-3674

Dear Evan:

Encore Acquisition Company is the owner of one of the largest oil fields in the United States, Montana's Cedar Creek Anticline. Since acquiring this field in 1999, Encore Acquisition has undertaken an aggressive program to increase oil production which has now taken Fallon County production to over 7.5 million barrels per year, making it the second largest oil producing county in the state. In fact annual Montana oil production has more than doubled since 2000, leading to a real bright spot in the eastern Montana economy.

The Cedar Creek Anticline has been producing since the 1950's and about 500 million barrels were produced. We have been able to achieve recent impressive production increases through the use of secondary and tertiary recovery techniques. We believe that hundreds of millions of barrels may still be recovered economically from this giant field, but it will take increasingly sophisticated techniques to extract this remaining recoverable oil. These advanced extraction techniques need to employ huge computing capacity that can best be achieved utilizing a super computer. If available to Encore, we would definitely make use of this type of super computer capability were it available in Montana in order to further increase Montana oil production.

In addition to increased oil production, some tertiary oil recovery techniques (called enhanced oil recovery-EOR for short) utilize CO2, which can be captured from advanced "clean and green" coal plants being promoted in Governor Schweitzer's energy policy. Again, these EOR techniques will utilize super computing capacity and this provides another way a super computer located in Montana can help move the state toward responsible development of Montana's coal resources. I support Montana's efforts to bring a super computer to the state.

Sincerely,

Jon Brumley

Chairman of the Board

Encore Acquisition Company

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